

# PROGRESS IN MUSIC.

## A NOTABLE COLLECTION OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

Some of Them Are Tuneful and Others Decidedly Barbaric—They May be Exhibited at the World's Fair.

An interesting collection of musical instruments as can be found anywhere, says the Detroit Free Press, is that gathered by Frederick Stearns during his extensive travels and which adorns the music room in the family residence on Lafayette avenue. Although Mr. Stearns, with the great generosity of a public-minded citizen, has given a most valuable collection of articles to the art museum his home is a veritable museum of rare and costly treasures, notable among which is the large assortment of musical instruments which he has gathered with discernment. Mr. Wilson, Secretary of the Bureau of Music, of the World's Columbian Exposition, who was shown the collection on the occasion of his recent visit here, was charmed with the instruments which fairly represent the progress of music, showing the barbaric conception of sweet sounds as well as the later manifestations on the part of half-



no less clearly than the dialect in which it is sung, will serve to indicate to which part of India it belongs. Many of the Hindoo songs are beautiful, both as to poetry and melody. The drum of India has the body of wood, the heads of skin and is tightly braced with cords. The soorings or string instrument has the body of dark wood and is pear-



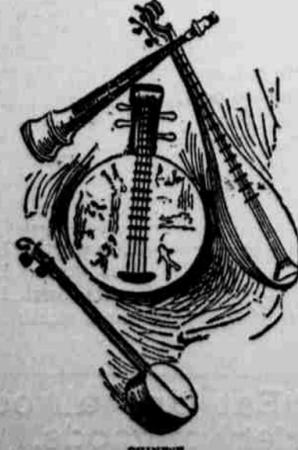
shaped. The handle is inlaid with ivory and it has eight wire strings with a bridge of ivory. It is played with a small plectrum. The tamboura is made of reddish wood and has four wire strings, three of steel and one of brass. It is used to accompany the voice singing. The flute and flageolets of bamboo have seven finger-holes each and some of them are furnished with a brass tip.

The Chinese as a Nation delight in what appeals to the senses—vivid color, original form and striking sound. Their music, therefore, is characterized by little of the spiritual. To them sensuous delight in tone is a great attraction. They base all sciences on music, and at one time the purity of its prevailing type was considered to be the test of the virtues of the reigning monarch. Even to-day the Imperial Board at Peking still keeps a close watch over new compositions, in order, as far as possible, to preserve the style of the ancient music. The music of the Chinese, like their language, is written in vertical rows of characters from right to left. The modern Chinese have a special sign for nearly every note in their melodic system. There is said to be a curious resemblance between some Scotch and Chinese airs. Among the instruments of this Nation in the Stearns collection are the yue kin, the sona and the ur-heen. The yue-kin, or the moon-guitar, has four strings which are tuned in pairs at the interval of a fifth. The sona is a favorite instrument among the common people, especially at marriage entertainments and funerals. It has an exceptional shrill and piercing sound. The ur-heen, or two stringed violin, has a head covered with snake skin. The bow is of bamboo and horsehair, while

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civilized people to produce effects of moving melody. The instruments are hung around the walls and are properly labeled. Frederick K. Stearns, who is an excellent musician, being President of the Detroit Musical Society, naturally takes a great interest in these instruments, and it is even hinted by some of his intimate friends that he has become proficient upon a score or so of them, such as the kermangeh, the gumbry, the derbarka and other well-known instruments. The sweet sounds that are produced from some of these instruments are not always of a ravishing character, so that when the affable President of the Detroit Musical Society is asked to play a solo on some extremely curious looking contrivance he generally is so considerate as to give only a short selection, which fully impresses his visitor with the remarkable qualities of the instrument. It goes without saying that most extraordinary variations of sound may be produced on these instruments which were devised by the Chinese, Indians, Mongolians, Africans, Japanese and many other people who have not produced instruments that are in use in the best regulated orchestras. Even Wagner who was notable for having all kinds of instruments and plenty of them in his orchestras would pause appalled before a band of musicians armed with the instruments seen in the Stearns collection, and it is doubtful if even he could so orchestrate as to provide for such an emergency.

A careful study of the instruments seen here would constitute a liberal education in a certain phase of musical matters. While the Chinese makes of his music a matter of science, and an agency for moral improvement, with the Hindoo it is pre-eminently a thing of the emotions. It has been asserted that Hindoo music has nothing which corresponds exactly to what we call musical measure, but that instead it is characterized by a certain rhythm incapable of being brought under the laws of musical time. There are two systems of music in vogue in India at the present day, the Karnatik, or southern system; and the Hindustani, or northern. The latter is chiefly in the hands of the Mohammedan professors, who appear to have borrowed from the Arabian and Persian systems. The Karnatik is more

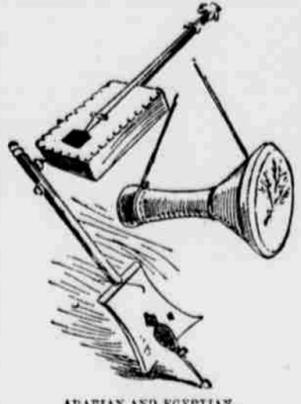


CHINESE.

melodious and possesses fewer traces of foreign innovation. Even in the different provinces, the style of music varies widely; and the character of a melody,

piano and organ, the koto and kokin should have a place in the curriculum of the institute and in ordinary school instruction. Experiments for improving its construction have already been made, and by substituting a soundingboard of kiri wood for the customary caskin, a much finer quality of tone is produced. The music of Corea is undoubtedly founded on that of China. It seems to have varied little in character since the early days. Of harmony the Corean knows nothing. His favorite instrument is the clarinet, which is said to have a shrill and piercing sound. It is the constant companion of the Coreans, indoors and out, and nothing is more common than to see one of them starting out for a stroll with his instrument under his arm. He will gather around him a crowd of eager listeners in a short space of time. This instrument is always played for solo purposes, for the excellent reason that if used in concerted music its tones would hopelessly drown those of all the rest of the band. Music is popular with all classes of the Coreans.

The Arabs have always been of a poetical temperament, but their music developed slowly. In the eighth and ninth centuries Bagdad was the great musical



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centre of the world, however, and there the Persian singers flocked in crowds to the court of the caliphs. Poets and musicians were well-rewarded. Singing is at present popular with all classes. Although respectable Moslems rarely perform instrumental music, they are fond of listening to it. Orchestra performances are common, both in public and private. The instruments principally used are the Nay, the Kemancheh, the Tamboura, the Oud, the Koonoon and the Santir. Sometimes the Darabukkeh is added. For the music which is performed in the public cafes, the Nay usually suffices. The place of honor is given to string instruments. This bears witness to an advanced stage of musical development; such, indeed, as is only to be expected among a people with whom poetry and song are as highly esteemed as among the followers of Mohammed. —Detroit Free Press.

**Mesmerizing the Czar.**  
The famous mesmerist, Stuart Cumberland, was recently summoned to the Court of Denmark to give an entertainment in the presence of the monarchs and princes assembled there. The Czar, who had never witnessed a mesmerist performance, but is a diligent student of works treating of the occult sciences, displayed great interest in the experiments of the eminent thought reader. As he, however, appeared to entertain some doubt as to power of "suggestion" in his own case, the mesmerist invited him to submit the matter to a personal test, to which Alexander III. consented with the best grace. It was then shown that, subject to a "suggestion" on the part of Mr. Cumberland, the Czar, who is well known to be endowed with herculean strength, was unable, in spite of the greatest exertion, to lift from the ground a little girl (Miss Bently), whom, a few minutes previously, he had carried around the room at arm's length. The Court was highly amused and the Czar laughingly congratulated the performer.

"Won By a Neck."



# FOR FARM AND GARDEN.

## BEDDING FOR HORSES.

At the price of \$2.50 for a load of manure it will pay to buy straw at any reasonable price, as a ton of it will make fully ten loads of manure, or even more if it is used economically by shaking out the cleanest and using it over again. But if this is not desired and clay is more easily procured, that will make good manure, but the horses will not be so clean, as the fine clay will work into the coat and make it dusty. Dry clay is an excellent absorbent and deodorizer. The best litter for box stalls for horses is leaves from the woods, as they keep the animals clean and are easily handled. —[New York Times.]

## ENGORGED CROP.

Engorged crop in fowls is due to the packing of food in the crop, and is to be treated in this way: The skin over the crop is slit for about two inches, and the crop then is opened by a slit made upward and downward, but not crosswise. The contents of the crop are then carefully taken out, and the wounds closed by drawing the edges together by thread passed through in two or three places. These stitches must be separate ones and tied with a slip knot to each one, so that when the wound heals, the thread may be drawn out easily. Each wound is thus closed separately. The fowl is fed on soft food for a week, when the wounds will be healed and ordinary feeding may be resumed. —[American Dairyman.]

## CARROTS FOR HORSES.

Carrots work an unlimited amount of good in horses during the winter, and if you have a supply on hand the best way, or one of the best ways, to dispose of them is to give them to the horses. They regulate the animal's bowels and keep his system open. They also make his coat shiny. When any agent performs these functions in a horse, they cannot help but keep the animal in good condition. A queer fact seems to be that they possess qualities which no other root or vegetable has. They may be what you would call an expensive food, yet taking into consideration the good which they do they are not so. Of course, the carrots need not be fed to the horse the same as you would give them a feed of corn on the ear. Give them two or three of the roots every day, or you can give them this number every other day if your supply is limited. But if you have plenty of carrots give some of them to the horse. —[American Farmer.]

## WINTER CARE OF LAWNS.

Many lawns are injured by being cut too late or too closely just before winter begins, which causes the grass to winter kill, and the medium between leaving so much as to smother out the finer grasses, or leaving too little to protect the roots, must be observed. One way to do this is to continue the cutting, but set the mower so that it will leave the grass about two inches high or a little more. Others protect the roots with a covering of stable manure put on when the ground was slightly frozen, but some object to that because of its filthy appearance whenever the ground is bare, and its disagreeable odor when first put on. They must be careful to leave grass enough to protect the roots, and then in the spring apply a top dressing of some of the special lawn fertilizers, which are nearly odorless, and can be bought in quantities small enough for a village lot, or large enough for a farm. The better way in using these is to make one application as soon as the ground thaws, and another about two weeks later, using each time about the amount recommended by the manufacturer, and never putting it on when the grass is wet, unless raining at the time. —[Boston Cultivator.]

## METHODS OF IMPROVING SOIL.

When a soil refuses to respond to the ordinary methods of cultivation with a remunerative crop it is said to be worn out or originally deficient in the elements of plant food. While either one of these statements may be true, it is possible for a so-called poor soil to contain one or more of these elements in sufficient quantity if they were in a proper form to be taken up and used by the plants. This statement suggests a solution of the often-observed improved condition of soils arising from mechanical measures, such as under-draining, subsoiling and fall ploughing, or from an increased fertility through the application of lime, gypsum, salt, etc., substances that are commonly supposed to contribute but little plant

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food to the crop in a direct way when artificially supplied. In such cases soil fertility which was inactive seems to be set free and through these agencies made available to an extent sometimes equalling that which follows the application of complete fertilizers. Thus underdraining assists by removing water when so greatly in excess as to be hurtful, and at the same time lightens and disintegrates a heavy soil by admitting air to circulate through it more freely, decomposing it and better fitting it for cultivation. Rotation of crops is another method of improving a thin soil, for the wants of crops are so varying that one may succeed fairly well where another would be an entire failure. So there are some crops which, through their superior ability to acquire sustenance from the air or from the sub-soil through their numerous and deeply penetrating roots, not only find support for themselves, but when plowed under add to the fertility the soil naturally possessed.

It goes without saying that everything of a fertilizing character which can be gathered from the farm, the stables and the barnyard, should be returned to the cultivated land in its best form and with the least possible waste, to make good the deficiency caused by removing crops. With all these and with good husbandry, where a field is cultivated continually commercial fertilizers may often be required and profitably used for certain crops. —[New York World.]

## FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

Store up green poultry food for winter now. Use liquid manure for growing plants only.

For market, especially, it is easy to have too many varieties.

An early floor is the best for the duck and geese quarters.

Push the late chickens and turkeys so as to market them soon.

In selecting strawberry plants get none that have borne fruit.

More or less grain becomes a necessity to the fowls at this time.

A young tree set out in the site of an old one surely thrives well.

If well fed, early hatched pullets should be laying regularly now.

Warmth and a variety of food will make a considerable difference in laying.

When feeding to ration it will be best to feed regularly five times every day.

Guineas are great foragers and will destroy many insects that hens will not touch.

Any sudden increase in the fertility of pear trees is almost sure to cause blight.

Ducks usually lay very early in the morning and hence should not be let out too early.

Nipping the canes of blackberries and raspberries should be done now to ensure a stocky growth.

The Seneca pear ripens soon after the Bartlett. It is large and of fine quality, though not so highly flavored.

Root pruning is good for a thrifty tree which refuses to bear. It checks growth and develops fruit buds, which is needed in such a case.

When picking and packing for market is done carelessly the results are rarely satisfactory. Care in these two respects is necessary to have the fruit present a neat appearance.

When the early potatoes are dug select out seed for next year's planting from the hills that yield the largest and best tubers. This is necessary to keep the seed from running out.

## The Cat Nature.

The cat's spirit of independence, indeed, is the most distinct characteristic of her nature. As Mrs. de Custine rightly said, the cat's great difference from, and, according to her sentiments, superiority to, the dog lies in her calm insistence on selection which invariably accompanies her apparent docility. To the dog proprietorship is mastership; he knows his home, and he recognizes without question the man who has paid for, feeds, and, on occasion, kicks him with all the easy familiarity of ownership. He follows that man undoubting and unnoticed, grateful for a word, even thankful for an oath. But the cat is a creature of a very different stamp. She will not even stoop to conquer, nor be tempted out of her nature by offers of reward. She absolutely declines instruction; nay, even persuasion is lost upon her for any permanent effect it may be designed to have. You may be the legal possessor of a cat, but you cannot govern her affections. —[Henriette Ronner.]

# PENNSYLVANIA PICKINGS.

## SOME IMPORTANT HAPPENINGS.

Of Interest to Dwellers in the Keystone State.

### THE LAW WORKED WELL.

EXCELLENT RESULTS FROM THE BARRER BALLOT IN COAL REGIONS. The Commissioners of Northumberland and county have received several hundred letters since Tuesday's election from prominent Republicans and Democrats, expressing their great satisfaction with the working of the new ballot law. It was feared that much difficulty would be experienced in the coal regions owing to the large number of foreigners, but election officials from Shamokin and Mt. Carmel state that they found the average foreigner displayed more intelligence in voting under the new system than most Americans.

### PENNSYLVANIA'S CEREALS.

A BULLETIN FROM THE CENSUS BUREAU GIVES FIGURES FOR FARMERS. A bulletin was issued by the Census Office at Washington on the cereal production of Pennsylvania. The total area in cereals in 1889 was 4,448,000 acres, as compared with 4,724,000 acres in 1879, a decrease of 277,000 acres. Oats are the only cereals showing any increase whatever in area under cultivation, the acreage having increased from 1,237,000 in 1879 to 1,310,000 in 1889. The areas in wheat, corn, rye, buckwheat and barley show a decrease of 120,000, 120,000, 22,000, 35,000 and 2,000 acres respectively.

### WANTS \$20,000 FOR A BROKEN ARM.

J. Ross Mater, a druggist of Altoona, entered suit in the Blair county courts at Altoona against the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, to recover \$20,000 damages for having his left arm broken by being struck by a locomotive, while he was attempting to pass over a dangerous railroad crossing.

### A FATAL BOILER EXPLOSION.

The boilers in Bladwell's Bros. kindling wood factory at Austin, Potter county, blew up, killing Andrew Epal and William Bruner, both firemen. All the other operators escaped without injury. The factory was badly wrecked. The loss is \$10,000.

### MISS NINA DEMING, OF TIoga, AGED 18, SHOT HERSELF WEDNESDAY NIGHT. DISAPPOINTED IN LOVE.

Miss Mattie Dickson, aged 23, a colored school teacher of Erie, committed suicide by shooting. She had been ill.

### WHILE JAMES HARVEY OF Raccoon TOWNSHIP, BEAVER COUNTY, WAS HUNTING HIS GUN WAS ACCIDENTALLY DISCHARGED. HE WILL DIE.

At Allentown Murderer Keck, who was to have been executed Thursday, committed suicide by poisoning the night before.

### THE SON OF COUNCILMAN GREEN OF PHILADELPHIA IS AT JOHNSTOWN TO BRING SUIT AGAINST THE PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD FOR DAMAGES FOR THE DEATH OF HIS FATHER, WHO WALKED OFF A TRAIN PLATFORM WHILE ON ROUTE TO CHICAGO TO THE WORLD'S FAIR DEDICATION. HE IS ALLEGED THE COMPANY SHOULD HAVE SUPPLIED VESTIBULE CARS.

## THE RESULT IN PENNSYLVANIA.

HARRISON RECEIVES 65,000 MAJORITY, THE REPUBLICANS ELECT 29 CONGRESSMEN, AND THE LEGISLATURE IS REPUBLICAN, AS USUAL.

Returns come in slowly from all parts of the State, and especially from the city districts. Enough are in, however, to show that the State has given 65,000 majority for Harrison, and that both branches of the Legislature are Republican. While the report from those Congressional districts where the contest was closest are not sufficiently full to base an accurate estimate on, it seems safe to say that the Republicans have elected at least 29 of the 39 Congressmen. Complete returns may increase or decrease the number.

### THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION.

The following table gives Pennsylvania's delegation in the Fifty-second Congress, and the delegation allotted to the Fifty-third as far as the latest returns indicate:

52d CONGRESS.	53d CONGRESS.
1. H. H. Bingham, R.	H. H. Bingham, R.
2. Chas. O'Neil, R.	Chas. O'Neil, R.
3. Wm. McClellan, D.	William McClellan, D.
4. J. E. Byrnum, R.	J. E. Byrnum, R.
5. A. C. Harmer, R.	A. C. Harmer, R.
6. J. B. Robinson, R.	J. B. Robinson, R.
7. J. P. Wanger, R.	Edwin Halliwell, D.
8. Wm. Mutchler, D.	William Mutchler, D.
9. C. J. Erdman, D.	D. B. Bruner, D.
10. M. B. Stuebel, R.	Morris T. Brosius, R.
11. J. A. Scranton, R.	Lemuel A. Amerman, D.
12. W. H. Hines, D.	G. W. Shook, R.
13. J. B. Reilly, D.	J. B. Reilly, D.
14. E. M. Womer, R.	J. B. Reilly, D.
15. M. B. Wright, R.	M. B. Wright, R.
16. A. C. Hopkins, R.	A. C. Hopkins, R.
17. S. P. Wolverson, D.	S. P. Wolverson, D.
18. T. M. Mahon, R.	L. E. Atkinson, R.
19. F. E. Bittah, R.	F. E. Bittah, R.
20. J. D. Hicks, R.	Edward Scull, R.
21. D. B. Heiner, R.	Geo. F. Huff, R.
22. John Dalzell, R.	John Dalzell, R.
23. W. A. Stone, R.	W. A. Stone, R.
24. W. A. Sipe, D.	Vacancy.
25. T. W. Phillips, R.	E. P. Gillespie, D.
26. J. C. S. Byrd, D.	Matthew Griswold, R.
27. C. W. Stone, R.	C. W. Stone, R.
28. G. F. Krebs, D.	G. F. Krebs, D.

Congress at Large—Alexander McDowell, R., and William Lilly, R.

### THE NEXT STATE SENATE.

According to the latest and fullest returns, the next State Senate of Pennsylvania will stand as follows, the 25 holding over Senators being indicated by (\*):

1-Geo. H. Smith, R.	26-James Rooney, D*
2-E. Becker, R*	27-W. H. Hackb'g, R.
3-C. P. Delvin, D.	28-G. C. Brown, D.
4-C. W. Thomas, R*	27-L. R. Keefe, R.
5-Chas. A. Porter, R.	30-B. J. Mumman, D*
6-Boies Penrose, R*	31-M. W. Woods, R.
7-John C. Grady, R.	32-W. P. Lloyd, D*
8-Jacob Crouse, R*	33-W. U. Brewer, D.
9-J. M. Baker, R.	34-P. Gray Meeck, D.
10-George Ross, D*	35-John A. Lennon, R.
11-H. D. Green, D.	36-N. B. Critchfield, D*
12-A. D. Markley, D*	37-J. G. Mitchell, R.
13-J. H. Landis, R.	38-H. A. Hall, D*
14-W. S. Smith, R.	39-J. H. Brown, R.
15-S. J. McCarrell, R.	40-M. thias Brandt, D*
16-M. H. Ziegler, D*	41-W. B. Meredith, R.
17-J. P. Scobin, R.	42-John N. Newell, R*
18-E. H. Laubach, D*	43-John Upperman, R.
19-W. P. Snyder, R.	44-Wm. Flinn, R*
20-M. McDonald, D*	45-S. S. Steel, R.
21-C. W. Cline, R.	46-W. B. Dunlap, D.
22-W. M. Rapsler, D*	47-James S. Fruit, R.
23-B. Mitchell, R.	48-W. R. Crawford, R*
24-G. H. Herring, D.	49-D. B. McCrea, R.
25-A. F. Baunon, R.	50-S. J. Logan, D.

—A GENUINE blizzard struck the Juniata Valley, Pa., on Thursday, driving the mercury down 2°. It was accompanied by a heavy snowfall covering the ground to a depth of 6 inches.